



## THE COMPASS ROSE



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*The April flotilla meeting will be held **April 10 at 7:00 pm** in the Marion County Sheriff's station, 3280 SE 80th Street, Ocala (US 441 at the split).*

## New From the March 2012 Flotilla Meeting

The March flotilla meeting was held on March 13, 2012.

Chuck Truthan, Flotilla Commander (FC), presented a Vessel Examiner (VE) certificate to Bob Seguin. Chuck also informed the flotilla that Dolores Spain was recently sworn in as FSO-IS and PV and presented with certificates for these two staff officer positions. He also presented member Paul McGuckin with his retirement plaque.

Bob Seguin will man the Auxiliary booth at the Senior Services Show on Friday, March 16. At the three-day boat show on March 9, 10 and 11 at Millers Boating Center in Ocala, members Bob Seguin, Vonnie Robinson, George Hendricks, Tom Spangler, Joe Kronzer, and Randy and Mary Patton, set up and manned a Coast Guard Auxiliary booth which provided great PR for the flotilla and received several requests for information on joining the Auxiliary. Six VEs were performed at the boat show, too!

Andy Render, Flotilla Vice Commander (VFC) reported on the flotilla's facility, *Paratus*,—it's ownership, and liability coverage. Chuck Morton, Division 15 Operations Officer, said *Paratus* is good until January 1, 2013. Andy also suggested that the flotilla purchase a rolling cart to transport display set-ups to shows and PV visits. Chuck Truthan, as FC, said he could use his discretionary funds for the purchase. The meeting was then adjourned.

Andy Render, VFC and FSO-MT, provided training after the meeting on the Coast Guard and Auxiliary chain of command and protocol.



Chuck Truthan, Flotilla Commander, presents a VE certificate to Bob Seguin.

Photo by Mary Patton

### Flotilla Tests Domain-Specific Email System by Randy Patton, FSO-CS

New FSO-CS Randy Patton reported that he has acquired the internet domain name of "**uscgaux-fl.org**" and has configured full-featured IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol) email accounts for bridge officers and a few others who have specifically requested this type of email account, as well as "forwarding-only" email addresses for all FSOs in the flotilla.

Some of the advantages of this system include:

- One group email address to send email to all bridge officers
- One group email address to send email to

all members

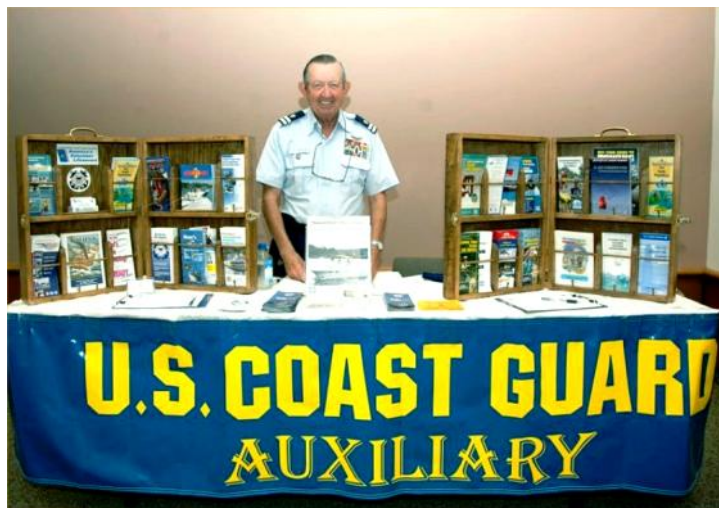
- A professional and consistent set of email addresses, including a dedicated flotilla address, to appear on public documents such as *The Compass Rose* and our unit website.
- The potential for future expansion to provide [uscgaux-fl.org](mailto:uscgaux-fl.org) email addresses for any flotilla member who would like one.

The popularity of Auxiliary units acquiring these domain addresses is apparent from the rapidly dwindling availability of appropriate domain names. So far, this test has been going well, and updated reports will be forthcoming at future meetings.



Members at the Coast Guard Auxiliary booth at the Millers Boating Center boat show in Ocala on March 10 are: L to R: Mary Patton, Randy Patton, Vonnice Robinson, and Bob Seguin.

Photo by Helpful Passerby



Bob Seguin behind the Auxiliary booth at the Ocala Parade of Senior Services Show. Photo by Helpful Passerby

### **Auxiliary is Represented at Senior Services Show** by Assistant FSO-PV Bob Seguin

I represented Flotilla 15-3 on March 16th from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ewers Center located on the Ocala campus of the College of Central Florida. The activity was entitled the "Ocala Parade of Senior Services" and consisted of more than 75 different organizations from banks, investment groups, medical assistance, police, fire departments and EMTs, recreation groups, community assistance programs, etc. It is designed to answer and support any and all questions a person might have to assist them with "life planning" information. Even though it said

"seniors," all ages were in attendance. I would estimate several hundred people passed through at one time or another.

I made direct contact with about 30-35 interested persons and talked in general with several more. Contact resulted in two potential members and three potential boating safety class students. Several organizations were very impressed with our display racks. It was a very well-planned and successful effort by the City of Ocala.

### **Uniform Etiquette & Member Training** by Andy Render, VFC & FSO-MT

Did you notice how many of our members were in uniform at our last meeting? That was really terrific! Wearing your Auxiliary uniform to our meetings shows the pride and unity you are building in our flotilla.

**UNIFORM ETIQUETTE**—In last month's *The Compass Rose* we discussed a suggestion that several of our members brought up. That was to observe each other in uniform and offer suggestions to see if we are wearing our uniforms correctly. Well, let's give it a try. Just before the start of our next meeting, look over each others uniforms and "QUIETLY" offer suggestions. It's not an inspection; it's just a matter of helping each other build our confidence in wearing the uniform proudly.

**NOW ON THE OTHER HAND**—The bridge will not check anyone's uniform to see if it's being worn correctly. All uniform "suggestions" will only be between members. BUT—during the meeting, I'll give you an opportunity to "inspect" me! Aside from the normal discrepancies in the way I wear my uniform, other things may be incorrect. See if you can spot them!

*Please make it a point to come to our next meeting in uniform.* If you do not have a uniform, no problem, we would still like to see you there. Remember, this is all for FUN. We will see how things go, and maybe do it again later in the year. Maybe you will find so many things wrong with my uniform—we may never do it again!

**ON ANOTHER SUBJECT**—Do you have a topic that you would like to have presented during the member training portion of our monthly meeting? If so, let us know and we will see if we can make it happen. Don't forget we still need volunteers to conduct some of our MT sessions. Just let us know when and what you would like to present, and we will schedule you to conduct one of these sessions.

We're looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting. *Remember, if possible, come in uniform.*

## From the Flotilla Meeting on February 14, 2012



Randy Patton, FSO-CS, reports on the beta-testing of the new domain-specific email system for the flotilla.

Photo by Mary Patton



Some flotilla members at the March 2012 meeting. L to R: Joe Kronzer, Tom Spangler, BM2 Jared Morelli, USCG, Auxiliary Liaison Officer (AUXLO), Bart Walker (way in back) and Andy Render.

Photo by Mary Patton



### Excerpts from the March FSO Reports

George Hendricks, FSO-VE, reported a banner month for Vessel Safety Checks (VSC). With the activity of the Bassmasters Tournament, Millers Boating Center boat show, the Lake Weir end-of-month blitz, and the canoe/paddle boat inspections, the flotilla ended the month with 123 vessel exams! Bravo Zulu to all our VEs!

Andy Render, VFC and FSO-MT, reported on the training given after the March flotilla meeting, entitled "Civilians in Uniform." This was a presentation on naval traditions and the Coast Guard's organization, ranks and ratings—both enlisted and officer.

Mary Patton, FSO-PB, reported that she published the March 2012 issue of *The Compass Rose*.

Chuck Truthan, FC and FSO-PA, reports he is still waiting for Academy Admissions Partner Program and, while he attended the Bassmasters Tournament, he said this year the anglers sought out the Auxiliary for their VSCs!

Dolores Spain, FSO-IS/PV, reported receiving seven RBS 7029 forms, seven PA 7030 forms, three PV 7046 forms, and eight VE 7038 forms for the month of March. Our flotilla had a very active month!

## Ocala Flotilla 15-3

For more information, please visit our website:

<http://a0701503.wow.uscgaux.info>

### Flotilla Commander's Column



As we enter April, I'd like to keep you informed as to how we are progressing toward our two primary goals: Recruitment/PE around Lake Weir and Crew Member training.

The flotilla voted to fund the direct mailing to lake shore residents of Lake Weir and Little Lake Weir. The vendor we'll be working with is at the **Sun 'n Fun** aviation event in Lakeland currently, so I'll catch up with him after my surgery. That gives Mary Patton, Sam Lauff, and I time to work on the flyer. This is not just to recruit members, but also to promote Recreational Boating Safety - Public Education programs as well.

As for Crew Member training, you will need to contact Andy Render directly. He can't force you and he certainly can't help you if don't ask! Also remember that training is available with the Station Yankeetown crews on the second and fourth Thursday of every month. Contact Andy for coordination through Division. You'll need to make reservations to attend. Expect to be there by 0800 and in proper uniform (ODU) with proper personal protective equipment (PPE). Also, Andy receives email invitations from 15-5's Larry Berman to join on Patrols he has at Crystal River. Many of those are open to crew trainees too, so let Andy know you want to go!

The Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament went well with 70 inspections and 55 VSC decals awarded.

There is a potential PA/RBS event on 12 May. Bob Seguin or Andy Render will be coordinating it, so keep the date open if you can help out.

The Toomey Tools PA/RBS event may have to be cancelled because the Division meeting took all but one available member with it. Hopefully next year the dates will be different and we'll be able to participate with their Kid's Day event! Hopefully next year we'll also have a few more active members available too.

Andy Render and Randy Patton will be stepping up to run things while I'm down from my surgery.

As always, your comments, questions, complaints *WITH suggested solutions* are always welcomed!

Semper Paratus!

Chuck

## Who We Are

The Coast Guard's philosophy is to be SEMPER PARATUS (ALWAYS READY) against all threats and all hazards. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is an integral part of that philosophy and the Coast Guard Forces. We conduct safety patrols on local waterways, assist the Coast Guard with homeland security duties, teach boating safety classes, conduct free vessel safety checks for the public, as well as many other activities. The Auxiliary has members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Guam.



George Hendricks, FSO-VE, with the new Vessel Safety Check sign frame at the March VE Blitz at Carney Island boat ramp.

Photo by Andy Render, VFC

### Flotilla 15-3 Officers for 2012

Chuck Truthan, FC	Randy Patton, FSO-MA
Andy Render, VFC	Andy Render, FSO-MT
Vonnie Robinson, IPFC	Andy Render, FSO-OP
Shon Limor, FSO-AV	Chuck Truthan, FSO-PA
Michael Casey, FSC-CM	Mary Patton, FSO-PB
Randy Patton, FSO-CS	Samuel Lauff, Jr, FSO-PE
Vonnie Robinson FSO-FN	Dolores Spain, FSO-PV
Randy Patton, FSO-HR	Joyce Truthan, FSO-SR
Dolores Spain, FSO-IS	George Hendricks, FSO-VE